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MONTANA

MONTANA

WORK SCAPES

From friendly tips to important reminders about filming in Montana

ON LOCATION IN MONTANA

We work at moving mountains to make it as easy as possible for you to scout, set up and shoot in Montana. We won't make promises we can't keep, but we will do everything in our power to put the resources of this state to work for you.

Take this booklet. It's designed to be your handy guide to the right people and places. We've provided the names and numbers for film liaisons, Indian reservations, government agencies, plus state and national parks. We've also tossed in important details on laws, incentives, transportation and even the weather.

Of course, if any subjects require more detailed information, just call. We'll gladly send you our comprehensive Montana Production Guide.

Montana Governor Marc Racicot encircled by the Montana Film Office team, clockwise from lower left: Film Office Assistant Marilyn Goodrich, Film Office Location Coordinator Bill Kinney, Film Office Director Louie Stimac, and Marketing Assistant Suzanne Elfstrom. Film Office staff Michael Crummett photo.

Cover: John Reddy photo.

Montana Film Office

Louie Stimac, Director

1424 9th Avenue

P.O. Box 200533

Helena, MT 59620-0533

(800) 553-4563
(outside MT)

(406) 444-3762

(406) 444-1800 - fax

(406) 444-3960
(information hotline)

World Wide Web:

http://montanafilm.mt.gov

E-Mail:

montanafilm@travel.mt.gov

Economic Incentives For Filming

Besides providing great locations, Montana offers the following incentives

1. **No Sales Tax**
   There is no sales tax in Montana. However, there is a local options tax in certain areas of the state

2. **Vehicle Licensing Exemptions**
   Out-of-state commercial vehicles used exclusively in the production of motion pictures, television, or commercials are exempt from licensing requirements for 150 consecutive days

3. **Migratory Equipment Tax Exemption**
   Out-of-state equipment used exclusively in the production of motion pictures, television, or commercials is exempt from property tax for 150 consecutive days.

4. **No Accommodations Tax** - if staying longer than 30 days

Milk River Wagon Train near Malta. Michael Crummett photo

Economic Incentives for Filming
Film Liaison Offices/Chambers Of Commerce
Accommodations/Production Services and Production Crews
Working in Montana/Permits/State Forests and Lands
State Parks/Indian Reservations
Bureau of Land Management/National Forests
National Parks/Montana Map
Montana Mileage Chart/Highway Distances
Airlines/Weather/Sunrise/Sunset

WORKSCAPES

FILM LIAISON OFFICES

Billings
Film Liaison Office
Convention and Visitors Bureau
Chamber of Commerce
(406) 245-4111
(800) 735-2635
(406) 245-7333 - fax

Bozeman
Film Liaison Office
Convention and Visitors Bureau
Chamber of Commerce
(406) 586-5421
(800) 228-4224
(406) 586-8286 - fax

Butte
Film Liaison Office
Convention and Visitors Bureau
Chamber of Commerce
(406) 494-5595
(800) 735-6814
(406) 494-5188 - fax

Great Falls
Film Liaison Office
(800) 735-8535
Convention and Visitors Bureau
(406) 761-4434
(406) 761-6129 - fax

Helena
Convention and Visitors Bureau
(406) 442-4120
(800) 743-5362
(406) 447-1531 - fax

Kalispell/Whitefish
Flathead Film Liaison Office/
Flathead Convention and
Visitors Bureau
(406) 756-9091
(800) 543-3105
(406) 257-2500 - fax
(406) 862-3501 - Whitefish

Missoula
Film Liaison Office
Convention and Visitors Bureau
(406) 543-6623
(406) 543-6625 - fax

Former sheriff of Jordan. Michael Crummett photo

Chambers of Commerce

Anaconda Chamber of Commerce
(406) 563-2400
(406) 563-2400 - fax (call first)

Big Timber Chamber of Commerce
(406) 932-5131

Cooke City -Darrell Crabb
(406) 838-2251

Cut Bank Chamber of Commerce
(406) 873-4041

Deer Lodge Chamber of Commerce
(406) 846-2094
(406) 846-1943 - fax

Dillon Chamber of Commerce
(406) 683-5511
(406) 683-2411 - fax

Ennis Chamber of Commerce
(406) 682-4388

Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
(406) 228-2222
(406) 228-2244 - fax

Glendive Chamber of Commerce
(406) 365-5601
(800) 859-0824
(406) 365-5602 - fax

Hamilton Chamber of Commerce
(406) 363-2400
(406) 363-2402 - fax

Hardin Chamber of Commerce
(406) 665-1672
(406) 665-3220 - fax

Havre Chamber of Commerce
(406) 265-4383
(406) 265-7451 - fax

Lewistown Chamber of Commerce
(406) 538-5436
(406) 538-5437 - fax

Libby Chamber of Commerce
(406) 293-4167
(406) 293-3222 - fax

Livingston Chamber of Commerce
(406) 222-0850
(406) 222-0850 - fax (call first)

Miles City Chamber of Commerce
(406) 232-2890
(406) 232-4171 - fax

Polson Flathead Film Liaison Office
(406) 756-9091
(800) 543-3105
(406) 257-2500 - fax

Red Lodge Chamber of Commerce
(406) 446-1718

Shelby Chamber of Commerce
(406) 434-7184
(406) 434-2775 - fax

Sidney Chamber of Commerce
(406) 482-1916
(406) 482-4743 - fax

Virginia City and Nevada City
Bovey Restorations
(406) 843-5331
Chamber of Commerce
(406) 843-5345

West Yellowstone
Convention and Visitors Bureau
(406) 646-7701

WORKSCAPES

ACCOMMODATIONS

Whether you're shooting the badlands or the backwoods, comfort is just a phone call away. For details on hotels, motels, lodges, resorts, plus bed and breakfasts, contact the Montana Film Office.

PRODUCTION SERVICES AND PRODUCTION CREWS

The Montana Film Office routinely updates our list of experienced production crews and support companies who can help your production run as smoothly as possible. To get the most current listing, just call.

Michael Crummett photo

PRODUCTION SERVICES

Advertising Agencies
Airplane Charter Services
Ambulance Services
Animals & Handlers
Audio/Sound
Production Equipment
Car Rental Agencies
Catering (Production)
Communications
(Mobile Phones/Radios)
Dance Studios
Delivery Services
(Air Cargo & Overnight)
Fire Protection &
Controlled Burns
Helicopter Charter Services
Honeywagons
Lighting Equipment
Limousine Services
Mobile Phones
Motion Picture Equipment
Motor Homes
Photo Processing/Supplies
Production Companies
Production Coordination Services
Props (Period)
Screening Rooms/Movie Theatres
Security Guard/Patrol Services
Set Construction
Stock Footage & Photography
Talent Agencies
Unions & Associations
Wardrobe & Costumes
Water Trucks
Weather Services

Production Crews

Accounting

Art/Sets
(Art Directors, Carpenters, Coordinators, Greensman, Leadman, Painters, Props, Scenic Artists, Set Dressers, Storyboard Artists)

Camera
(Camera Operators-Film & Video, Director of Photography, Video Assist)

Casting
(Casting Directors-Principal & Extras)

Costume/Wardrobe
(Costume Designers, Costumers/ Wardrobe, Seamstress/Tailor)

Craft Services

Directors/Assistant Directors

Editing
(Editors - Film & Video)

Electrical
(Electricians, Gaffers)

Grip/Riggering
(Grips, Key, Dolly, Laborers, Safety Riggers)

Hair/Makeup
(Hairdressers/Stylists, Makeup Artists)

Locations
(Location Managers, Scouts, Contacts)

Medical Services
(Nurses/Paramedics)

Production
(Producers, Production Managers, Production Assistants, Production Coordinators/Secretaries)

Projectionists

Script Supervisors

Sound
(Boom Operators, Editors, Recordists)

Special Effects (Coordinator)

Still Photographers

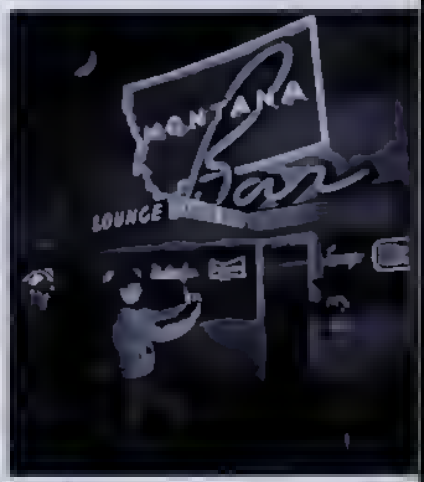
Studio Teachers

Stunts

Transportation
(Divers, Pilots, Captains, Coordinators)

Wranglers

Writers



Michael Crummett photo

Accommodations/Production Services and Production Crew
Working in Montana/Permits/State Forests and Lands
State Parks/Indian Reservations
Bureau of Land Management/National Forests
National Parks/Montana Map
Montana Mileage Chart/Highway Distances
Airlines/Weather/Sunrise/Sunset

WORKSCAPES

WORKING IN MONTANA

The Montana Film Office does not require film permits, however, the state park system, the Department of State Lands, and the Department of Transportation do require a permit or prior approval. Various federal agencies such as the National Park Service, the National Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management require permits. In all cases, the Montana Film office can act as your liaison with the appropriate agencies.

HIGHWAY SHOOTING PERMITS

STATE HIGHWAYS

The Montana Department of Transportation allows shooting, with permission, on its state highways, and in some cases, the Interstate system. Before any shooting begins on or next to the highway, the appropriate District Engineer must be contacted in advance.

Intermittent traffic control is permitted. A licensed and bonded Montana company must be used for traffic control for the safety of the film crew as well as the public. (For a list of these companies, contact the District Engineer.)

Fees
There is no fee for shooting on a state highway.

Liability insurance is required in the amount of at least $1 million (basic, no stunts).

Dennis Unsworth
Public Affairs Bureau
Department of Transportation
(406) 444-7205
(406) 444-7643 - fax

District Engineers

Billings	(406) 252-4138
Butte	(406) 494-3224
Glendive	(406) 365-5296
Great Falls	(406) 727-4350
Missoula	(406) 523-5800

CITY AND COUNTY ROADS

Shooting is normally allowed on city and county roads. Permission must be requested in advance from - and is at the discretion of - the appropriate municipality or county commission. For more information contact the Montana Film Office.

Transportation Permits

Fuel Permits

All vehicles powered by LPG or diesel powered vehicles over 26,000 pounds GVW have three licensing options for operating in Montana. All are readily available and are either inexpensive or free

1. **Short Term - Temporary Fuel Permit**
   Driver must purchase permit at first open weigh station after crossing border. Good for 72 hours.

2. **Long Term - Special Fuels License**
   Production Company/Driver must apply at least three days in advance of entering Montana. There is no charge for this license, but quarterly records must be submitted while in the state

3. **IFTA - International Fuel Tax Assessment Permit**
   Driver must display valid IFTA permit from home state at first open weigh station after crossing border. This will allow free passage into Montana and no other fuel permit is required.

Licensing Exemptions

Out-of-state commercial vehicles used exclusively in the production of motion pictures, television, or commercials are exempt from licensing requirements for 180 consecutive days. Other out-of-state commercial vehicles entering Montana require permits

Motor Carrier Services Division
Department of Transportation
(406) 444-6130
(406) 444-7670 - fax

State Forests and Lands

The Montana State Lands Department is responsible for seven state forests, as well as various other forest tracts, cropland, scenic badlands, urban tracts, and navigable waters scattered throughout the state Much of the revenue generated from the lease of these properties goes into the School Trust Fund which helps to educate Montana's children both today and for generations to come

Permits and Fees
A land use license, fee and bond may be required for filming on state lands.

Department of State Lands
Special Uses Section
(406) 444-2883
(406) 444-2684 - fax

Central Land Office
(406) 444-3633

Eastern Land Office
(406) 232-2034

Northeastern Land Office
(406) 538-5989

Northwestern Land Office
(406) 752-7994

Southern Land Office
(406) 259-3264

Southwestern Land Office
(406) 542-4200

Working In Montana/Permits/State Forests and Lan
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WORKSCAPES

STATE PARKS

Policy
Montana State Parks allow and encourage commercial filming when and where possible. However, it also requires that primary consideration be given to potential resource damage and to anticipated disruption of normal public use.

Permits
A permit is required for any filming or photography intended for public viewing or commercial advertising (includes motion picture, video, and still).

Five working days advance notice is required to process requests and to determine feasibility. Depending on the location, an environmental assessment may also be necessary. Permits are granted on a case by case basis.

Initial contact should include the nature of the project, shooting dates and times, the type of equipment, and the number of vehicles.

For best results notify the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks or the Film Office as soon as you think you may want to shoot in an area even if you do not have complete information.

Fees
A fee, performance bond and liability insurance may be required. The amounts for each will be set by the Department on a case by case basis.

Credits
Return to Lonesome Dove, Nobody's Girls, A River Runs Through It, The West, Marlboro, Idaho Ford Dealers, numerous documentaries

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
(406) 444-3750
(406) 444-4952 - fax

Autumn in the Forest. Michael Crummett photo

Montana's Indian Reservations are rich strongholds of Native American heritage. With seven reservations representing eleven tribes, nine percent of the Montana land base belongs to the reservations. Not all of this land is still owned by Indians, but all is governed by tribal or federal law. Reservations are important, not only because Native Americans have strong spiritual ties to the land, but because reservations have become Indians' last retreat and the last chance to preserve their culture. Now, the people of Montana's reservations are working to build strong economic bases so that their culture will survive and flourish with future generations of Indian people.

Indian lands have been used in many productions including feature films, commercials, documentaries and stills. Permit procedures vary according to the individual reservation. Contact the Film Office or the specific tribal office for filming guidelines and permit information.

Blackfeet Indian Reservation
Tribe: Blackfeet

Credits
War Party, Heaven's Gate, Forrest Gump (2nd Unit), Jeep, Amtrak, Sunoco Oil, Quaker State Oil, BMW, AT&T, Buick, Timberland

Blackfeet Tribal Business Council
(406) 338-7179

Crow Indian Reservation
Tribe: Crow

Credits
Far and Away, Little Big Man, Motel 6, Toyota, Arby's, The Real West, Legends of the West, Benetton catalog

Crow Tribal Council
(406) 638-2601

Flathead Indian Reservation
Tribes: Salish and Kootenai

Credits
The River Wild, various documentaries

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
(406) 675-2700

Fort Belknap Indian Reservation
Tribes: Gros Ventre and Assiniboine

Credits
John Denver Christmas Special, Name Your Adventure, Potters Wheel music video

Fort Belknap Community Council
(406) 353-2205

Fort Peck Indian Reservation
Tribes: Assiniboine and Sioux

Credits
Name Your Adventure, John Deere Industrial, Dinosaur Documentary

Fort Peck Sioux and Assiniboine Tribes
(406) 768-5155

Little Shell Tribe
Tribe: Little Shell Chippewa-Cree

Tribal Council
(406) 265-2741

Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation
Tribe: Northern Cheyenne

Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council
(406) 477-6284

Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation
Tribes: Chippewa and Cree

Chippewa Cree Business Committee
(406) 395-4282

STATE PARKS/INDIAN RESERVATIONS
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT/NATIONAL FOREST
NATIONAL PARKS/MONTANA MAP
MONTANA MILEAGE CHART/HIGHWAY DISTANCES
AIRLINES/WEATHER/SUNRISE/SUNSET

WORKSCAPES

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Policy
The Bureau of Land Management encourages properly conducted filming where appropriate, considering its potential economic and social benefits to the community and to the public as a whole

Permits
A permit is required for commercial motion picture, television, and still photography (any photography done for commercial gain).

A permit may take 30 days to process. This waiting period may be waived if minimal impact will occur (as determined by the BLM). Contact the appropriate BLM District Office as soon as possible to discuss the process. In all cases, at least 3 working days are necessary once all of the information is gathered.

Credits
Return to Lonesome Dove, Far and Away, Thousand Pieces of Gold, commercials, stills, and documentaries.

Montana State Office
(406) 255-2885

Butte District Office
(406) 494-5059

Lewistown District Office
(406) 538-7461

Miles City District Office
(406) 232-4331

Working on the open prairie. Michael Crummett photo

National Forests

Permits
A special-use permit is normally required for filming on National Forest lands, particularly for projects involving structural improvements or significant occupancy of the land by actors, crew, and/or equipment

Contact the Forest Service office no less than two weeks in advance (sooner if possible) of proposed filming for minimal impact projects - even if you are unsure of your exact locations. Be advised that large scale projects may require more time for evaluation so it is to your advantage to provide as much lead time as possible

Credits
A River Runs Through It, The River Wild, Beethoven's 2nd, Iron Will, Ballad of Little Jo, Heaven's Gate, Rancho Deluxe, Son of the Morning Star, War Party, Winds of Autumn, Winterhawk numerous commercials, stills, and documentaries

Northern Region Headquarters
(406) 329-3091
(406) 329-3411 - fax

Beaverhead National Forest
(406) 683-3900

Bitterroot National Forest
(406) 363-7117

Custer National Forest
(406) 657-6361

Deerlodge National Forest
(406) 496-3400

Flathead National Forest
(406) 758-5200

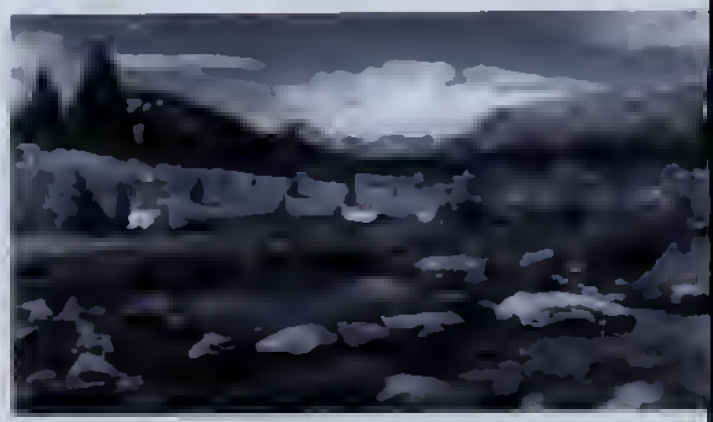
Gallatin National Forest
(406) 587-6701

Helena National Forest
(406) 449-5201

Kootenai National Forest
(406) 293-6211

Lewis and Clark National Forest
(406) 791-7700

Lolo National Forest
(406) 329-3750



Beartooth Mountains. Mark M'Millan photo

Bureau of Land Management/National Forests
National Parks/Montana Map
Montana Mileage Chart/Highway Distance
Airlines/Weather/Sunrise/Sunset

NATIONAL PARKS

Policy
The National Park Service permits and encourages commercial filming to the fullest extent possible consistent with the protection of resources and the enjoyment of the visitors. All "permitted" filming activities must be conducted in strict compliance with applicable regulations and conditions.

Permits
Filming permits are required for any filming intended for public viewing or commercial advertising (motion picture, video or still). A minimum of 10 working days is normally required to process and review a proposed filming activity. In Glacier National Park smaller projects which exhibit minimum potential for resource and visitor impact may allow a shorter review process.

Initial contact should provide as much specific information as possible about the nature of the project, dates, times, crew size, vehicle requirements and special effects. Permit language, potential impacts and fees vary from park to park.

Credits
Glacier National Park
Beethoven's 2nd, The River Wild, Forrest Gump, Heaven's Gate, numerous commercials, stills, and documentaries

Yellowstone National Park
Reebok Shoes and numerous documentaries

Glacier National Park
(406) 888-5441
(406) 888-5581 - fax

Yellowstone National Park
(307) 344-2013
(307) 344-2014 - fax

Mammoth Hot Springs near Gardiner
Yellowstone National Park photo

Montana Map

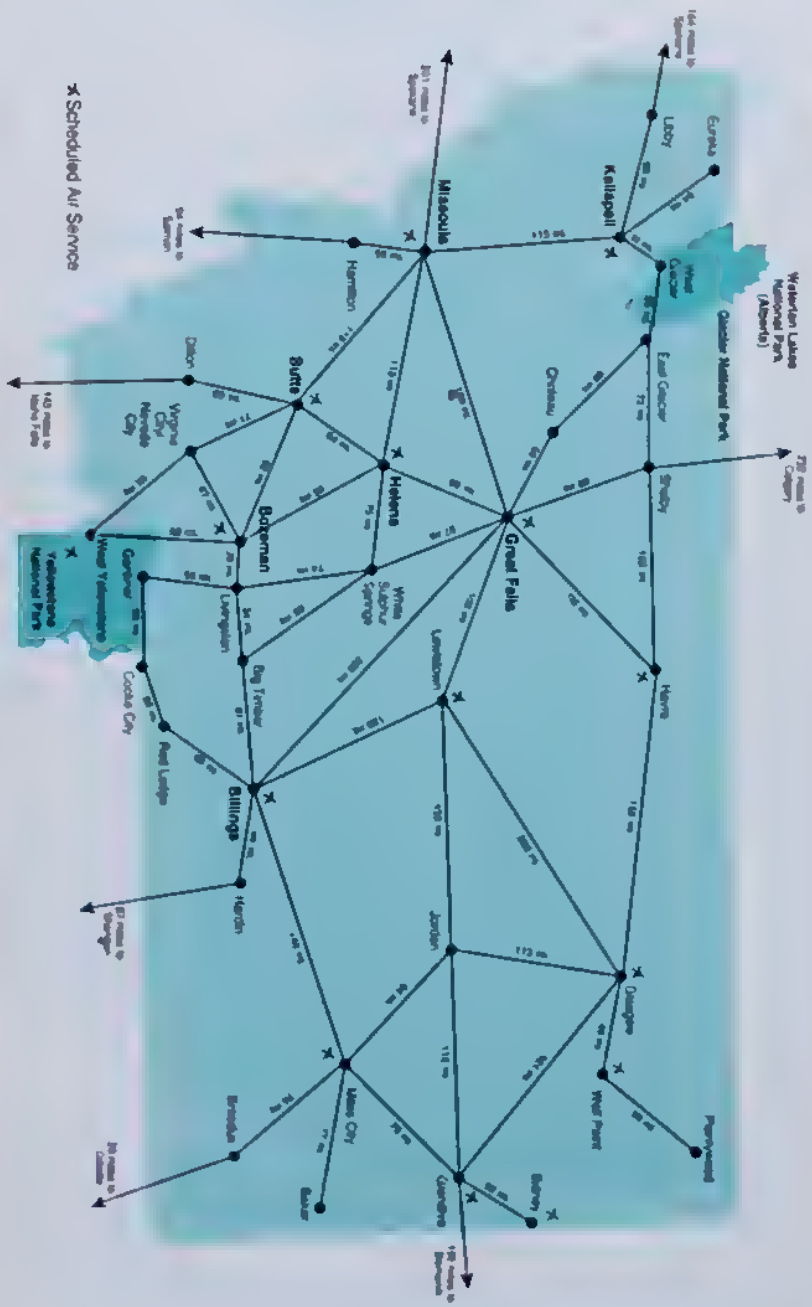
National Parks/Montana Map
Montana Mileage Chart/Highway Distances
Airlines/Weather/Sunrise/Sunset

Montana Mileage Chart

Simplified chart for reference. See the Montana Highway Map for more cities and towns

	Billings	Bozeman	Butte	Glasgow	Glendive	Great Falls	Havre	Helena	Kalispell	Missoula
Anaconda	251	109	27	446	474	172	288	83	212	103
Billings	0	142	224	280	223	220	251	224	421	340
Bozeman	142	0	82	368	385	177	293	95	292	201
Butte	224	82	0	427	447	153	269	84	226	119
Cooke City	125	135	217	405	340	280	376	230	427	336
Cut Bank	330	284	253	284	435	110	126	189	135	240
Deer Lodge	264	122	40	420	480	146	262	57	188	79
Dillon	253	111	85	468	476	208	324	119	277	170
Glasgow	280	366	427	0	151	274	158	363	419	442
Glendive	223	365	447	151	0	351	309	423	570	519
Great Falls	220	177	153	274	351	0	116	89	228	169
Hamilton	371	229	147	492	569	218	334	188	165	50
Havre	251	293	269	158	309	116	0	205	261	284
Helena	224	95	64	363	423	89	205	0	197	116
Kalispell	421	292	226	419	570	228	165	261	197	0
Lewistown	129	163	236	203	246	105	174	189	333	273
Libby	509	380	309	507	658	316	349	285	88	190
Livingston	116	26	108	340	339	171	287	121	318	227
Miles City	146	288	370	197	78	317	334	346	543	462
Missoula	340	201	119	442	519	168	284	116	115	0
Polson	406	267	185	458	585	234	308	182	49	88
Red Lodge	60	149	231	340	283	261	311	239	436	350
Shelby	308	262	221	260	411	88	102	167	159	226
Sidney	273	415	495	141	54	376	299	480	560	544
Virginia City	209	67	71	433	432	210	326	121	297	190
West Yellowstone	217	90	150	447	440	265	381	176	373	269
Whitefish	435	306	240	413	564	222	255	211	14	129

HIGHWAY DISTANCES



AIRLINES SERVING MONTANA

AIRLINES	Billings (406) 657-8495	Bozeman (406) 388-6632	Butte (406) 494-3771	Glasgow (406) 228-4023	Glendive (406) 687-3360	Great Falls (406) 727-3404	Havre (406) 265-4671	Helena (406) 442-2821	Kalispell (406) 257-5994	Lewistown (406) 538-3264	Miles City (406) 232-1354	Missoula (406) 728-4381	Sidney (406) 482-2415	West Yellowstone (406) 646-7631* (406) 444-2506**	Wolf Point (406) 653-1740
Big Sky 800-237-7788	✈			✈	✈		✈			✈	✈		✈		✈
Delta 800-221-1212	✈	✈	✈			✈		✈	✈			✈			
Horizon 800-547-9308	✈	✈	✈			✈		✈	✈			✈			
Northwest 800-225-2525	✈	✈	✈			✈		✈	✈			✈			
Sky West 800-453-9417	✈	✈	✈			✈		✈	✈			✈		✈	
United 800-241-6522	✈														

*Summer only
**Winter only

Climate and Weather

Montana experiences four distinct seasons, with low humidity that keeps the climate fairly moderate and enjoyable all year long.

In any season, the weather is changeable. To find out what's currently happening or predicted for various parts of the state, call the weather bureaus listed below. For historical climate information, call the Montana Film Office.

Montana Weather Bureaus

Statewide	(406) 453-2081
Billings	(406) 652-1916
Butte	(406) 494-3004
Great Falls	(406) 453-2081
Havre	(406) 265-6424
Helena	(406) 449-5204
Kalispell/Whitefish	(406) 755-4829
Missoula	(406) 329-4840

Sunrise/Sunset

Montana promises much more than long summer days for filming. The state's northern latitude and clean surroundings combine year-round in casting clear light and creating a brilliant, lingering magic hour.

To get a handle on that ever-moving window of daylight as our seasons change, call the Montana Film Office. We have comprehensive sunrise and sunset tables for towns and cities throughout the state.

Abbreviated Montana Sunrise/Sunset Chart

City/Town	January 1 Rise a.m.	January 1 Set p.m.	July 1 Rise a.m.	July 1 Set p.m.
Billings	7:56	4:40	5:28	9:08
Bozeman	8:07	4:46	5:33	9:20
Butte	8:15	4:54	5:42	9:28
Glasgow	7:57	4:23	5:10	9:10
Glendive	7:47	4:13	5:00	9:00
Great Falls	8:13	4:45	5:32	9:26
Helena	8:12	4:51	5:38	9:25
Kalispell	8:28	4:53	5:40	9 41
Miles City	7:53	4:19	5:06	9.06
Missoula	8:22	4:58	5:45	9:35

MOVIES MADE IN MONTANA

A River Runs Through It

Always

Amanda

Amazing Grace and Chuck

Ballad of Little Jo

Beartooth

Beethoven's 2nd

Bright Angel

Broken Arrow

Cattle Queen of Montana

Cold Feet

Damnation Alley

Devils Horse

Diggstown

Disorganized Crime

Evel Knievel

Far and Away

Fast Walking

Firefox

Forrest Gump (2nd Unit)

Heartland

Heaven's Gate

Holy Matrimony

Iron Will (2nd Unit)

Josh and S.A.M.

Keep the Change

The Last Ride

Little Big Man

Livers Ain't Cheap

Missouri Breaks

Montana Crossroads

Pow Wow Highway

Rancho Deluxe

Red Skies Over Montana

Return to Lonesome Dove

The River Wild

Runaway Train

Season of Change

Son of the Morning Star

Stacking

The Stone Boy

Telefon

Thousand Pieces of Gold

Thunderbolt and Lightfoot

Triumphs of a Man Called Horse

True Colors

Under Siege II
Dark Territory (2nd Unit)

Untouchables

War Party

Warpath

Where the Rivers Rise

Winds of Autumn

Winterhawk

ON LOCATION IN
MONTANA

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